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2-19-04

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q66634

Nobuo TAKAHASHI

Appln. No.: 09/977,387

Group Art Unit: 2161

Confirmation No.: 3087

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM FOR DETERMINING SELLING PRICE, AND
COMPUTER-READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING THE PROGRAM

RECEIVED
FEB 1 2 2004
GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

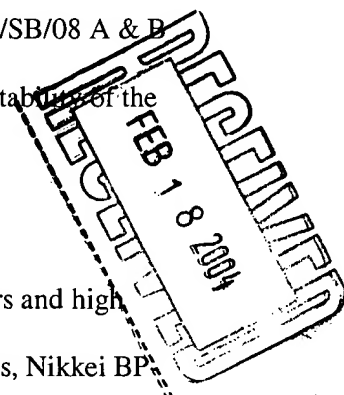
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. T. Otake, "(New Service) Joint purchasing site-Strength in attracting customers and high volume sales - Stir up the desire to buy with a sense of play", Nikkei Net Business, Nikkei BP Sha, 15 September 2000, No. 63, pp. 110-113.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-057214, published February 25, 2000 with English Abstract.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits



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(whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated December 2, 2003, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof, which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,



Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

Date: February 10, 2004

- Claims: 1-21
- Cited Literature: 1 and 2
- Remarks:

Furthermore, Cited Literature 2 discloses an invention whereby it is possible to receive requests for product orders from customers connected on-line, and display the product price and terms of payment when the received request is responded to.

Moreover, language suggesting joint purchasing can be found in Cited Literature 2 ((0076)).

List of Cited Literature

- ## Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Fields searched	IPC 7th Edition	G06F17/60–19/00
Prior Art Literature	DB name	

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.